

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates 2008-09

2 June 2008

**Question:** BR- 9  
**Topic:** Opposition briefing on flow-through shares  
**Proof Hansard Page:** E79

**Senator Johnston asked:**

**Mr Hartwell**—There will always be varying views about the appropriateness of such a scheme. All I can say to you is that we are working with Treasury on the design of a flow-through share scheme. They are not new. Under the previous government, as you would be aware, we looked at a couple of models. We are at the moment having some discussions with Treasury. We are also working with the Minister and the Minister's office and we do hope to at least have a document on which we can then consult other stakeholders towards seeing if we cannot get some agreement on the broad framework for a scheme.

**Senator JOHNSTON**—Is there any advance on the time lines with respect to maybe even a white paper?

**Mr Hartwell**—I do not think we would title it as a white paper. But can I say we would hope to at least have a consultative document on the broad framework of the scheme available towards the end of June.

**Senator JOHNSTON**—Towards the end of this month. Minister, what would your attitude be towards briefing the opposition with respect to that policy?

**Senator Carr**—It is a matter we will take up with the Minister directly. I am representing the minister here, so we will take that on notice and raise that matter with him.

**Answer:**

Briefing on flow-through shares will be provided. This should be arranged with the Minister's Office.